

Independent Review Panel Members

Tab 9

Background:

On an ongoing basis, TCDD seeks qualified individuals who can serve on the Independent Review Panels that evaluate proposals received in response to Requests for Proposals (RFPs). In order to have a large enough pool of potential reviewers, a database of approved individuals is maintained. The Executive Committee reviews and approves individuals to be included in the reviewer pool at each meeting. Planning Director Joanna Cordry and Planning Specialist Danny Fikac will provide information about individuals who recently applied to be reviewers. This information includes the name, areas of expertise, and city of the potential new reviewers. This information is provided behind this tab sheet.

The Executive Committee will be asked to make a final determination on any additions to the list of potential reviewers.

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 12

Expected Action:

The Executive Committee will consider this information, and make a final determination about the applicant.

Council — Agenda Item 12. D.

Expected Action:

The Council will receive a report on the Executive Committee decisions.

TO: Executive Committee
FROM: Danny Fikac, Planning Specialist
SUBJECT: Approving New Applications for RFP Review Panelists
DATE: August 2, 2017

TCDD staff received fourteen new applications for new members of TCDD RFP Review Panel, and TCDD staff contacted a previous applicant for additional information. The memo includes the new applicants' name, location and qualifications. As TCDD develops new projects and moves forward with its new five-year plan, it is necessary to continue to add to the eligible panel members in order to have a diverse independent review panel with expertise in various subject matters.

There were two additional applications with incomplete information. Staff's efforts to contact the applicants were unsuccessful.

TCDD RFP Review Panel members

Last Name	First Name	Location	Qualifications
Carlson	Kay	Houston	I have two adopted sons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. One is 25, has Down syndrome, works part-time, and lives at home. The other is in a group home, but the three of us spend time together almost every weekend. I have 15 years of hands-on experience navigating the various systems, supports and services. For three years I have served on the IDD System Redesign Advisory Committee and participated in the courses over the years given by The Arc of Houston.
Cox	Deanne	Rowlett	<p>My son is 8 years old and has autism spectrum disorder as well as other diagnoses. I have obtained a Bachelors of Arts in Economics. I am a co-coordinator in a local autism support group (TACA) that provides parent education and support and an advocate with COPAA and assist families in east Texas with special education issues. Additionally, I serve on the Planning and Network Advisory Board for the Metrocare Local Authority.</p> <p>I have grant writing experience for my own child to receive services.</p>
Denton	Ann	Austin	<p>I am a family member of an individual with a disability and I am a professional/paraprofessional in the disability field. My sister had a behavioral health disability: bipolar disorder and substance use disorder, and in 2012 she passed away.</p> <p>I have 40 years of experience helping people with disabilities, primarily people with behavioral health disorders, and I am a national expert on homelessness, behavioral health, housing, and other areas of community integration. Currently, I am the senior fellow for Advocates for Human Potential. Under the auspices of Utah State University and ILRU every year, I teach an online class on housing and supports for CIL staff every year. I serve on the Board of Commissioners for the Housing Authority of Travis County, and President of the Board for the Strategic Housing Finance Corporation (a housing development corporation). I have also served as a reviewer for grant applications at the federal and state level.</p>

Last Name	First Name	Location	Qualifications
Keller	Karlyn	Georgetown	<p>For 20 years, I have worked as a Special Education teacher for elementary, middle school, high school and 18+ programs. I am an experienced Education Diagnostician, Special Education Counselor and Special Education Director.</p> <p>I have achieved an Ed.D. – Educational Administration/Special Education, M.ED. –Educational Administration, M.ED. – Special Education: Gifted and Talented & Educational Diagnostician, M.S. – Counseling, Community & School, M.ED. - Special Education: Generic Special Education, B.S. - Psychology/Special Education and B.S. - Cross Cultural Communications. I am a Licensed Professional Counselor and National Board of Certified Counselor</p> <p>Currently, I am employed as Texas Association for School Boards as the Special Education Solutions Lead Account Executive/Manager. I am a member of TASB, TASA, and TCASE which provide ongoing advocacy at the state and federal level. I have experience both in writing and reviewing grants.</p>
Medina	Kirsten	New Braunfels	<p>I am a professional/paraprofessional in the disability field. I have a bachelor's degree in Social Work from Texas State University, and am a licensed social worker under the State of Texas. Currently, I am employed with Texas Department of State Health Services supporting children living with disabilities that require assistance through attendant or personal care services. I assess families for assistance and other social services they need access to. I have some experience writing grants in my previous employment with AIDS Services of Austin.</p>
Meigs	Amanda	San Antonio	<p>I am a professional/paraprofessional in the disability field. Currently, I am employed for an FMSA, where one of my primary functions is to serve as their HCS and TxHmL specialist. Additionally, I have served as a provider for both respite and PAS/HAB, coached and competed as a unified partner in Special Olympics, and worked as a job coach.</p> <p>Previously, I have been employed as a service advisor for CDS in Texas, the LEAP Program coordinator (autism unit) with the Arc of San Antonio and as a TxHML service coordinator with Alamo Local Authority (AACOG).</p>

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Richman	David	Lubbock	<p>I have a disability and I am a professional/paraprofessional in the disability field. I was diagnosed with Dyslexia in 3rd grade. I have obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Psychology, and a Ph.D. in School Psychology. I am a Board Certified Behavior Analyst.</p> <p>In 1989 I became a direct care staff worker in one of the first community group homes in Iowa City, IA. Most recently, I conducted research in Lima, Peru at the Anne Sullivan Center. I learned from Liliano Mayo, Ph.D., to use the term people with "different abilities" because it forces to see the other person's strengths instead of their limitations. Currently, I am employed at Texas Tech University.</p> <p>I have served as a Principal Investigator on federal and local grants. I have also reviewed grants for the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation, Institute for Educational Sciences, and numerous internal grant competitions within TTU.</p>
Sanger	Katherine	Dickinson	<p>My son is 14 years old and he is diagnosed with autism and an intellectual disability. He is currently in the 8th grade, but functions at a toddler level.</p> <p>I have an AA in General Studies, a BS in Information Technology, an MA in Liberal Arts, an MA English Literature, an MFA in Creative Writing, a Post-Master's Certificate in Adult and College Education, and 48 doctoral hours in Post-Secondary and Adult Education.</p> <p>I am a member of the school district's "Parent Advisory Committee," and I run the parent support group for the school district. On my own time, I set-up and run various events for special needs "kids." In the past two years, I've set up numerous movie days at the library, easter egg hunts, and an indoor trick-or-treat. In addition, I attend training and rallies for special needs. Additionally, I am a member of The Arc of the Gulf Coast, and I communicate with local groups to arrange for speakers at events. I recently traveled to the Capitol during part of an event to talk to lawmakers. I have taught classes on grant writing.</p>

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Shams	Sanjukta	Dallas	<p>I am a family member of an individual with a disability., I am a professional/paraprofessional in the disability field. My niece was born prematurely and suffered a massive brain bleed. She has cerebral palsy and autism.</p> <p>I am employed as a development director and grant writer for LifePath. I have been exposed to various individuals with IDD and IDD funding resources available to meet their everyday needs. I continue to work closely with LifePath's supported employment department by raising funds to help individuals find a paid internship.</p> <p>I am a member of the Sierra Club, Women of Visionary Influence and Girl Scouts of North Texas.</p>
Shetron	Tamara	Kyle	<p>I am the parent of an adult child with ADHD and an adult child with Tourette syndrome. I was also the child of parent with a neuro-muscular degenerative disease (similar to MS).</p> <p>For 3 ½ years, I was an instructor at the Marbridge Foundation (for music, drama, spiritual programs). I led courses and directed choirs,including touring groups, and theatre groups with two major performances each year. I continue my work in the theatre as the board director of TILT, an Austin-based performance group for adults with disabilities. Currently, I am pursuing a PhD in Developmental Education with research interests in postsecondary education for adults with ID.</p> <p>I have graded submissions for H-E-B education grants for which I read through grant applications to determine if they fit the criteria, and score the quality of grant based upon a rubric.</p>
Skivington	Michael	Tomball	<p>I have more than 20 years of experience in the disability field. First, I was a high school teacher for students with learning and emotional disabilities. This experience led me to complete a PhD in Special Education from UW-Madison. I then taught pre-service college students who were seeking teaching licensure in several different universities.</p> <p>I have written several grants at the university level. I have also reviewed grant proposals as part of my overall responsibilities as a college professor.</p>

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Sonnenberg	Bruce "Lee"	Lubbock	<p>Three members of my immediate family have a physical disability. My youngest daughter has a visual impairment caused by the progression of her congenital glaucoma and several surgical errors. My son had numerous orthopedic surgeries on his feet and ankles to correct a bone deformity, and 10 years ago my wife was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.</p> <p>I am the Associate Managing Director for Texas Tech's Transportation and Parking Services. I am responsible for the personnel, financial and operational management of the department. I also assist with finding employment locations for the students who participate in Project SWEEP. Project SWEEP is a 5-week TWC vocational training program for high school students who are blind or visually impaired. I volunteer my time on the Project SWEEP planning committee.</p> <p>I serve on the Board of Trustees for Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired; my appointment expires in 2019. I also serve on HHSC's Policy Council for Children and Families and the Board of Directors of All Blind Children of Texas. I also serve on the Friendship Athletic Booster Club Board of Directors and Commissioner for Sports Medicine.</p> <p>I am also an active member of The Springs Fellowship Church, University Medical Center, and Children's Miracle Network.</p>
Wilkerson	Denise	Arlington	<p>I am a professional/paraprofessional in the disability field. I serve on the executive board of the Arlington Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities which works on behalf of all people with disabilities and has relationships with many local service providers and other local advocacy organizations. My responsibility on the board also includes serving as their legislative/legal liaison and Facebook/marketing lead. As an attorney, I litigated a case on Title II (municipal) accessibility that was briefed all the way up to the United States Supreme Court. In addition to being on the Arlington Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities, I am also active with the River Legacy Foundation and IFAA (Santa Fe – Arlington).</p> <p>I have been a professional grant writer for 5 years. My first client was Serendipity Equine Haven, an equine assisted therapy stable.</p>

Last Name	First Name	Location	Qualifications
Zrile	Amanda	Arlington	<p>I have a Bachelor of Arts in Education (focus on special education). For 3 years, I taught at a nonprofit school for all disabilities in the vocational department and worked with Texas Workforce Solutions to gain employment opportunities for students. Currently, I am the Director of Education and Programs for The Arc of North Texas and run two day-hab facilities along with camps for summer and spring break for children and adults. I am a sponsor for Texas Advocates (Advocate Leaders of Dallas). I have a group about 10-15 advocates who meet monthly to solve issues. I have created #ADallas a project to help Dallas become better accessible for all abilities.</p> <p>I currently write and review grants as needed for specific projects that I need for my day-hab centers.</p>